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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
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November 13, 1979

Ambassador Raul Castro
USEMB
APO
Miami, FL 34034

Dear Ambassador Castro:

I was delighted to learn that Jaime Lokman has been granted the right to leave Argentina for Israel. Mrs. Lokman called this morning with the news. Congratulations on another victory; your persistence paid off once again.

In looking over the list, I believe that the Saragovi case may be next in line for successful resolution. There has been considerable Congressional interest, expressed to the Argentine government as well as to you. The injustices are so great that the GOA may be willing to grant the requested commutation of sentence which is now pending in the President's office. I would, therefore, urge that you make renewed efforts to secure the commutation.

I am enclosing two documents that are of interest. One is the cable we received from B'nai B'rith in Argentina after the October 29 luncheon at which Mr. Timmerman received the prize and Ms. Derian was cited for her great work. You undoubtedly know that the remarks of our people and Mr. Timmerman were muted because of the threats of retaliation against others if he were to speak out. That they have protested in this fashion tells a great deal about the Jewish situation.

I have heard that the threats of retaliation were conveyed to you and an Israeli diplomat. It would be very helpful to us to have your comments on the substance of the threats and their meaning.

The other enclosure is a letter that I sent to Ambassador Aja Espil after Dr. Fleischman was released. I spoke with Dr. Fleischman and he is very angry because the D.A.I.A. and other Jewish groups failed to help him and other victims of repression. Please note my appeal to the Ambassador for movement on the Rey case; if you can press for the reunion of the Rey family in Israel, we would appreciate it very much.

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Box 17400

Ambassador Raul Castro

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November 13, 1979

Last week, I accompanied Mr. Timmerman to Washington for meetings with Secretary Warren Christopher, various other State Department officials and members of the House and Senate. Mr. Timmerman spoke eloquently about the importance of the United States' policy on human rights. His remarks about Argentina were objective and thoughtful. Notably absent was any indication of anger or bitterness.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Rabbi Morton M. Rosenthal

MMR:bl
encls.

cc: Ms. Patricia Darian ✓
Mr. Jerry Whitman - State Department